

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

1. Cancelled.

2. (Currently amended) The A display module ~~as set forth in claim 1, wherein the one of the flexible substrate for the signal line drive circuit and the flexible substrate for the scanning line drive circuit is~~ comprising:

a sloped back surface member, having a cross-sectional slope with respect to a display surface of a display panel, provided face-to-face behind the display panel; and

a flexible substrate for a signal line drive circuit and a flexible substrate for a scanning line drive circuit, said flexible substrates being connected to the display panel to form a right angle with each other and extending to reach a back surface of the sloped back surface member,

wherein at least one of the flexible substrates extends to reach to the back surface of the sloped back surface member in

such a manner as to bend along the slope of the sloped back surface member, said sloped flexible substrate being made of a Chip On Film (COF) having a substrate thickness of 40  $\mu$ m or less,  
~~where the one of the flexible substrate for the signal line drive circuit and the flexible substrate for the scanning line drive circuit is so extended as to reach to the back surface of the sloped back surface member in such a manner that the one of the flexible substrate for the signal line drive circuit and the flexible substrate for the scanning line drive circuit is bent along the slope of the sloped back surface member.~~

3. (Currently amended) The A display module ~~as set forth in claim 1, wherein the one of the flexible substrate for the signal line drive circuit and the flexible substrate for the scanning line drive circuit has~~ comprising:

a sloped back surface member, having a cross-sectional slope with respect to a display surface of a display panel, provided face-to-face behind the display panel; and

a flexible substrate for a signal line drive circuit and a flexible substrate for a scanning line drive circuit, said flexible substrates being connected to the display panel to form

a right angle with each other and extending to reach a back surface of the sloped back surface member,

wherein at least one of the flexible substrates extends to reach to the back surface of the sloped back surface member in such a manner as to bend along the slope of the sloped back surface member, said sloped flexible substrate having an oblique folding slit at a bending part, ~~where the one of the flexible substrate for the signal line drive circuit and the flexible substrate for the scanning line drive circuit is so extended as to reach to the back surface of the sloped back surface member in such a manner that the one of the flexible substrate for the signal line drive circuit and the flexible, substrate for the scanning line drive circuit is bent along the slope of the sloped back surface member.~~

4. (Currently amended) The display module as set forth in claim 2, wherein: ~~the COF is such a COF that~~ has a conductive film, which is an electrode wiring of an IC (Integrated Circuit) chip, that is directly joined with a substrate material.

5. (Currently amended) The display module as set forth in claim 4, wherein: the conductive film on the substrate material is covered with a resist, ~~whereas~~ and an input terminal that receives

image data, an ILB (Inner Lead Bonding) pad that is connected with the IC chip, and an output terminal that is connected with the display panel are ~~left~~ uncovered.

6. (*Currently amended*) The display module as set forth in claim 3, wherein: the oblique folding slit is an integral concave part, ~~which is~~ portion of a notched area of a substrate material of the ~~one of the~~ sloped flexible substrate ~~for the signal line drive circuit and the flexible substrate for the scanning line drive circuit,~~ and through which a plurality of folding lines pass.

7. (*Currently amended*) The display module as set forth in claim 6, wherein: the concave ~~part~~ portion includes a resist for reinforcement.

8. (*Currently amended*) The display module as set forth in claim 3, wherein: the oblique folding slit is an integral concave part, ~~which is~~ portion of a notched area of a substrate material of the ~~one of the~~ sloped flexible substrate ~~for the signal line drive circuit and the flexible substrate for the scanning line drive circuit,~~ leaving both edges of bending part.

9. (Currently amended) The display module as set forth in claim 8, wherein the concave part includes a resist for reinforcement.

10. (Currently amended) The display module as set forth in claim ~~1~~2, wherein:

the flexible substrate for the signal line drive circuit and the flexible substrate for the scanning line drive circuit, which are so extended as to reach to the back surface of the sloped back surface member, are placed so as to make a right angle with each other.

11. Cancelled.

12. (Currently amended) ~~The display module as set forth in claim 11, wherein:~~ A display module, comprising:

a display panel for displaying an image;

a back irradiation member for irradiating an irradiated surface with light from a light source, the back irradiation member covering the irradiated surface of the display panel;

and a driving flexible substrate for driving the display panel, the driving flexible substrate being connected to the display panel, and so extended as to reach to a back surface of the back

irradiation member,

wherein the back surface of the back irradiation member has a  
sloped surface sloped with respect to a display surface of the  
display panel,

wherein the driving flexible substrate is bent along the sloped  
surface and has an oblique folding slit at a bending part, and

wherein the driving flexible substrate is made of a Chip On  
Film (COF) having a substrate thickness of 40  $\mu\text{m}$  or less.

13. (Currently amended) ~~The display module as set forth in  
claim 11, wherein:~~ A display module, comprising:

a display panel for displaying an image;

a back irradiation member for irradiating an irradiated surface  
with light from a light source, the back irradiation member covering  
the irradiated surface of the display panel;

and a driving flexible substrate for driving the display panel,  
the driving flexible substrate being connected to the display panel,  
and so extended as to reach to a back surface of the back  
irradiation member,

wherein the back surface of the back irradiation member has a  
sloped surface sloped with respect to a display surface of the  
display panel,

Application No.: 10/072,981  
Amdt. Dated September 22, 2003  
Reply to Office Action of June 19, 2003  
Art Unit: 2871  
Atty. Docket: 1248-0576P

wherein the driving flexible substrate is bent along the  
sloped surface and has an oblique folding slit at a bending part.